

LISTING OF CLAIMS

The listing of claims below will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application.

1. (Currently Amended) A communication network, comprising:
a plurality of server devices for providing a plurality of services to the network, where each service of the plurality of services has a corresponding service address, and wherein a first server device of the plurality of server devices provides first and second services that are distinct from each other; and
a client device configured to access a the first service of the plurality of services by performing the following:
accessing a service point map on the client device to obtain the corresponding service address for the first service, and
sending a request for the first service to the corresponding respective service address for the first service,
wherein the service point map comprises a listing of ~~at least one service of the plurality of services~~ and their corresponding service addresses, wherein the corresponding service address for the first service is distinct from the corresponding service address for the second service available on the network and the corresponding service address for each service of the at least one service .

2. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 1 further comprising a service point map manager device to intermittently generate a current service point map ~~identifying at least one connected service~~ listing the plurality of services and corresponding ~~address services addresses information for the at least one connected service connected to the network,~~ where each respective server device of the server devices sends corresponding service address information for each service at the respective provided by that server device to the service point map manager and the client device collects the current service point map from the service point map manager device when the client device connects to the network.

3. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 2, wherein the service point map manager device selects ~~the~~ at least one connected service for inclusion in the current service point map using server load balancing techniques.

4. (Previously Presented) The communication network of claim 3, wherein the server load balancing techniques are implemented by supplying a first service point map to the client device, wherein the first service point map has been processed for load balancing.

5. (Previously Presented) The communication network of claim 3, wherein the server load balancing techniques are implemented by supplying a first service point map to the client device, wherein the client device runs a script code in the first service point map to select the at least one connected service.

6. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 2, wherein the service point map manager device selects ~~the~~ at least one connected service for inclusion in the current service point map based on the topographical location of the client device in the network.

7. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 1, wherein the service point map includes supplemental service identification data comprising a client epoch value for a the second service identified in the service point map, wherein the client epoch value is used to correlate the performance of the client device and the second service.

8. (Previously Presented) The communication network of claim 7, wherein a third service has a corresponding service epoch value, whereby the third service causes the client device to take corrective action at the time that a mismatch is detected between the client epoch value and the service epoch value using executable commands embedded in the service point map.

9. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 1, wherein a the second service of the plurality of services causes the client device to perform actions using executable commands in the service point map.

10. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 1, wherein the service point map includes backup service address information for a selected service identified in the service point map in the event that the selected service cannot be reached.

11. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 10, wherein the backup service address information comprises address information for a service point map manager device.

12. (Currently Amended) The communication network of claim 10, wherein the backup service address information comprises address information for an alternate server device providing the selected service.

13. (Currently Amended) In a client/server communication network wherein a plurality of services are located on a plurality of servers operable to connect to the network, a server computer system for:

generating a table listing ~~of at least one service~~ comprising first and second services provided by a first server of the plurality of servers connected to the network and corresponding first and second location information for the first and second services, respectively, wherein the first and second location information are distinct from each other ~~each service of the at least one service, wherein a first service of the at least one service is selected from the plurality of services using a first partitioning scheme, and~~
~~providing~~ sending the table listing to a client computer system ~~configured to~~ for storage therein, wherein the table listing enables the client computer system to access a the second service of the at least one service using the table listing on the client computer system to obtain the corresponding second location information in the table listing for the second service, and
~~send a request for the second service to the corresponding location for the second service.~~

14. (Previously Presented) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein the server computer system generates the table listing based on current service topology.

15. (Currently Amended) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein the ~~client~~ server computer system ~~collects~~ sends the table listing ~~from the server~~ client computer system ~~upon connecting~~ when the client computer system connects to the network.

16. (Currently Amended) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein a first service is selected from the plurality of services using a first partitioning scheme, wherein the first partitioning scheme is a functional partitioning of the plurality of services.

17. (Currently Amended) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein a first service is selected from the plurality of services using a first partitioning scheme, wherein the first partitioning scheme uses identification data associated with the client computer system to select the first service.

18. (Currently Amended) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein a first service is selected from the plurality of services using a first partitioning scheme, wherein the first partitioning scheme is uses a resource connection to select the first service.

19. (Currently Amended) The server computer system of claim 13, wherein a first service is selected from the plurality of services using a first partitioning scheme, wherein the first partitioning scheme uses equivalency to select the first service.

20. (Currently Amended) A method ~~for a client process running on a client to access a plurality of services provided by a plurality of servers over a computer network using a dynamic service point map~~, comprising:

in response to a connection by the client process to the computer network,

a first server of a plurality of servers transferring a dynamic service point map to ~~the a~~ client process from a first server of the plurality of servers in response to the client connecting to a computer network, wherein

the dynamic service point map comprises a listing of ~~at least one service of the a~~ plurality of services provided by the plurality of servers and corresponding location information for each service of the ~~at least one service~~ plurality of services, wherein first and second services provided by a first server of the

plurality of servers, are listed in the service point map along with first and second location information, respectively, wherein the first and second location information are distinct from each other and
~~the client process is configured to perform the following:~~
~~store the dynamic service point map on the client;~~
~~obtain the corresponding location information for a first service of the at least one service from by directly accessing the dynamic service point map on the client;~~
~~connect to the first service using the corresponding location information for the first service.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising:
~~generating second location information for a second server on which a second service is provided, and~~
~~publishing the second location information to the first server~~ the first server receiving the second location information for inclusion in the dynamic service point map.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20 further comprising transferring an updated dynamic service point map to the client ~~process~~ upon failure of the client ~~process~~ to connect to a the second service of the at least one service listed in the dynamic service point map.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium comprising:
transferring instructions to transfer a dynamic service point map to a client process running on a client from a first server of a plurality of servers in a network in response to the client process connecting to the network, wherein the dynamic service point map comprises a listing of ~~at least one service of a plurality of services provided by the plurality of servers~~ and corresponding location information for each service of the ~~at least one service~~ plurality of services, wherein the listing comprises first and second services provided by a first server of the plurality of servers and first and second location information corresponding to the first and second services, respectively,

wherein the first location information is distinct from the second location information, and
the client process is configured to
connect to a first service of the at least one service listed in the dynamic service point map by directly accessing the corresponding location information in the dynamic service point map on the client to obtain the corresponding location information for the first service, and
send a request for the first service to the corresponding location for the first service.

24. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 further comprising:
generating instructions to generate the second location information ~~for a second server on which a second service is provided~~, and
publishing instructions to publish the second location information ~~to the first server~~ for inclusion in the dynamic service point map.

25. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 23 further comprising:
second transferring instructions to transfer an updated dynamic service point map to the client process upon failure of the client process to connect to a ~~the~~ second service ~~of the at least one service~~ listed in the dynamic service point map.